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T.D.

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/422,154	10/21/99	POWELL	C 303/1/151

IM22/0702

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AUSTIN TX 78767-0398

EXAMINER

WYROZEBSKI LEE, K

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1714

DATE MAILED: 07/02/01

13

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND ISSUE FEE DUE

IN22/0702

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	TOTAL CLAIMS	EXAMINER AND GROUP ART UNIT	DATE MAILED
19/022,154	10/21/99	029	WYPOZBESKI LEE, K	12/16 07/02/01
First Named Applicant	POWELL, OS 1990 154151 TERM EXT. = 0 DAYS.			

TITLE OF INVENTION ORGANOCCLAY COMPOSITIONS PREPARED FROM ESTER GUMS AND COMPOSITES BASED ON THE COMPOSITIONS

ATTYS DOCKET NO.	CLASS-SUBCLASS	BATCH NO.	APPLN TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	FEE DUE	DATE DUE
1 303/1/151	524-445.000	149	UTILITY	NO	\$1240.00	10/02/01

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.

THE ISSUE FEE MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.

HOW TO RESPOND TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

- If the status is changed, pay twice the amount of the FEE DUE shown above and notify the Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or
- If the status is the same, pay the FEE DUE shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

- Pay FEE DUE shown above, or
- File verified statement of Small Entity Status before, or with, payment of 1/2 the FEE DUE shown above.

II. Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned to the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) with your ISSUE FEE. Even if the ISSUE FEE has already been paid by charge to deposit account, Part B Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the ISSUE FEE to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give application number and batch number.

Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Box ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE COPY

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/422,154

Examiner

Katarzyna W. Lee

Applicant(s)

POWELL ET AL.

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#13/C

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to 6/11/2001.
2. ☐ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 4-10, 12, 13, 15-20, 31-33, 35-41 and 45-47.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are acceptable as formal drawings.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE FOR SUBMITTING NEW FORMAL DRAWINGS, OR A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION.** This three-month period for complying with the REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL is extendable under 37 CFR 1.136(a).

6. ☐ Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION IS REQUIRED.
7. ☐ Applicant MUST submit NEW FORMAL DRAWINGS
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review(PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the examiner.
- (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.

8. ☐ Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Any reply to this letter should include, in the upper right hand corner, the APPLICATION NUMBER (SERIES CODE / SERIAL NUMBER). If applicant has received a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due, the ISSUE BATCH NUMBER and DATE of the NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE should also be included.

Attachment(s)

- 1 ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2 ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3 ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 4 ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____.
- 5 ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No. _____.
- 6 ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- 7 ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
- 8 ☐ Other
- 9 ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Mark Deluca on 6/27/2001.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 1, line 5, term "comprises" was deleted and term "is" was inserted.

In claim 10, line 4, term "comprises" was deleted and term "is" was inserted.

In claim 31, line 3, term "comprises" was deleted and term "is" was inserted.

Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record Maxfield (WO 93/04117) discloses a composition comprising clay material exfoliated with onium compounds. The onium compounds of the prior art of Maxfield include ammonium and phosphonium cations, where esters of fatty acids are listed briefly as possible substituents. The prior art of Maxfield fails to disclose combination of quaternary ammonium compounds having diester substituents in mixture with other quaternary ammonium compounds having monoesters and triesters as substituents.

The prior art of Franklin (U.S. 6,037,315) discloses use of the quaternary ammonium compounds containing mixture of mono-, di- and triesters. The ammonium compounds of the prior art of Franklin are utilized in cosmetic industry and there is no teaching of exfoliating clay material with such cations.

Since the prior art of record fails to teach the present invention claims 1, 4-10, 12, 13, 15-20, 31-33, 35-41 and 45-47 are passed to issue.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Katarzyna W. Lee whose telephone number is (703) 306-5875.

The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thurs 6:30 AM-4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vasu Jagannathan can be reached on (703) 306-2777. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 305-3599 for regular communications and (703) 305-3599 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.

KIWL

June 27, 2001

EDWARD J. CAIN
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 1500

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Edward J. Cain', is written over the printed name and title.